

Compass Chronicle

Compass Charter Schools | Winter 2018

Happy New Year!

With a new year comes new resolutions. I have two – professionally, to continue to help Compass grow in what I have dubbed our ‘Year of Growth,’ and personally, to find a balance between my academic, personal, and professional lives. What are your resolutions for 2018?



When I think of ‘Year of Growth,’ I am thinking of a few things. Of course, growth in terms of enrollment and letting interested families and future scholars know about the Compass Experience. I am also thinking about growth in terms of what we provide our scholars and learning coaches as part of that Compass Experience. We continue to increase engagement opportunities, both in and out of the classroom. I have visited many Learning Labs and come out impressed with the level of engagement between our scholars. I have also had the opportunity to attend a few field trips and spend time in-person with scholars and parents, and on one field trip to JPL in December, was even joined by Mr. Matt Koblick, our Board of Directors Chair!

There is so much to be proud of at Compass, and so much going on in and out of the classroom. This newsletter is full of important information and exciting updates about Compass Charter Schools’ Online Elementary, Middle and High School. And at our upcoming Parent Town Halls with the CEO (first week of February), I will be sharing several more updates which are meant to continue to enhance the Compass Experience and help our scholars on their educational journey.

As you know, we love your suggestions, as Compass truly is all of our school! We have a virtual suggestion box for [scholars](#), as well as [parents](#), where you can share your input on CCS. We review these monthly with our [Parent Advisory Council](#), [Scholar Leadership Council](#), and Staff Advisory Committee. Feel free to share your suggestion(s) today to help us continue to enhance the educational experience for our scholars.

I hope you enjoy the Winter 2018 issue of our Compass Chronicle, and I look forward to seeing you in a Learning Lab, on a field trip, or at a Coffee with Compass! Forever Loud & Proud!

J.J. Lewis, President & CEO
jlewis@compasscharters.org
[@lewis1jj](#)

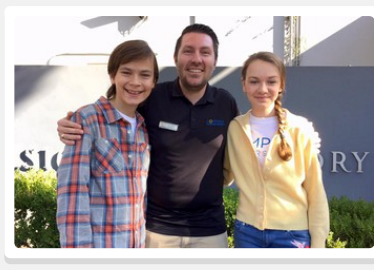
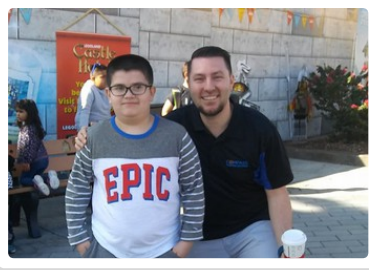


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The Compass Blog

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- [5 Tips to Help Your Children Build a Strong Sense of Integrity.](#)
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Compass In The News

- [Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Announces the Winners of its Inaugural Spelling Bee](#)
- [Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Selected to Join The Energy Bus for Schools Leadership Journey.](#)

- [Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Announces Participation in The Great Kindness Challenge](#)
- [Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Names their December Scholars of the Month](#)
- [Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Hosting Ice Cream Social to Celebrate National School Choice Week](#)
- [Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Names their November Scholars of the Month](#)



ENGAGEMENT

Talent Show

Those who attended our November Talent Show loved every minute! All the performances were done virtually so that all scholars were able to participate no matter where they are located! Guests in the session shared that they had so much fun, and there were multiple requests for when we would be holding our next Talent Show. We're excited to announce that we're planning to host our next one this spring. More details to come!

A spotlight on a stage with red curtains. In the center, a young boy named Avery S. is sitting and smiling. To his right, there is a text box with a bio. In the bottom left corner, there is a compass icon, and in the bottom right corner, there is a stylized orange flame or phoenix logo.

Avery S. - Piano

Avery is nine years old and is in the fourth grade. He is in Mrs. Shumaker's class at Compass. He loves playing the piano and has been playing since he was 5 years old.

Fun Field Trips

One of our learning coaches and two of our scholars who attended our Rubel's Castle field trip shared that they were all astounded by the amount of creativity present at Rubel's Castle! The

learning coach particularly enjoyed watching her scholars' amazement as they toured the property. They believe this is a great field trip to continue offering because it's a great example of one following their natural childhood interests, the determination to do so, and how resourceful one can be.



We had a blast during December and January with our community! Scholars, learning coaches, staff, family, and friends have made memories together at Logan's Candies, John's Incredible Pizza, Rubel's Castle, Poverello House, San Diego STEAM Maker Festival, LA Clippers Game, Winter Celebration, NASA Jet Propulsion Lab, Aquarium of the Pacific, Downing Planetarium, La Brea Tar Pits, Spelling Bee, National School Choice Ice Cream Celebration, American Revolutionary Tour at Riley's Farm, Virtual Scholar Workshops, Scholar Clubs, and more!



Logan's Candies



La Brea Tar Pits



Nasa Jet Propulsion Lab

Scholar Clubs

We have a wide variety of extracurricular clubs available to our scholars! These clubs meet primarily virtually so all scholars are able to participate and build meaningful connections. Scholars can join a club anytime during the school year. To learn more about joining a club, please visit [this link!](#)



Celebrating Our Scholars

Earlier this year several of our scholars shared fun facts about their personalities, passions, and hobbies. Watch the video below to learn more about our special scholars!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsYiJCjS0H0>



Coaches' Corner & Coffee With Compass

We have had some amazing dialogue with our Learning Coaches during Coaches' Corner sessions and we are looking forward to seeing some of these wonderful faces in-person at our upcoming [Coffee With Compass](#) events.

Have questions about Coaches' Corner? Contact [Karle Roberts](#), Family Engagement Coordinator.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Fun Days

Mark your calendars! In March, we are hosting Family Fun Days in [Fresno](#) and San Diego! We want to celebrate our scholars and provide an opportunity for you to bring a friend or two along to learn more about who we are in a fun environment!



Pet Photo Contest

We love every single member of our Compass family, including our scholars' pets! During the month of February, we will be celebrating Responsible Pet Owners Month by having a pet photo contest. Submit your photos starting next Monday, February 1 through Friday, February 23! Learn all about this contest and rules to enter by [clicking here](#)!

Spring Talent Show

We will be holding our next Virtual Talent Show on March 30th! Please submit your [auditions to this form](#) no later than March 16th. All are welcome to join virtually to see all of our scholars' talents! [Click here](#) to view details on joining virtually to view the Talent Show on Friday, March 30!





Eighth-Grade Bash at Universal Studios

Eighth-grade scholars, mark your calendars! We'll be celebrating your achievements together with other 8th graders from all across the state at Universal's 8th Grade Bash on Friday, June 1! More details are coming soon.

Virtual Scholar Workshops

We have two exciting Virtual Scholar Workshops coming up with our very own Jessica Wood! On Thursday, February 15, scholars will learn all about [Messy Kitchen Science](#). Then on Thursday, March 22, scholars will be able to participate virtually in an [Engineering Challenge](#)!

Senior Class of 2018

We are so excited for Compass Charter Schools' flagship graduating class! Keep an eye out for different ways that we will be celebrating our Class of 2018. Save the dates for the graduation ceremonies which will be held on June 11, 12, and 13. Stay tuned for more details!



More Upcoming Events

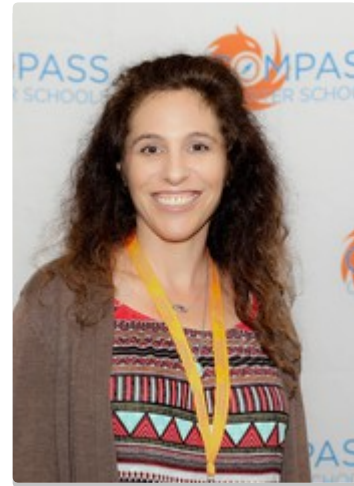
Below is a sampling of what our scholars will have available to them in the upcoming months. To see the entire list of field trips and events, please visit [this flyer](#) which is regularly updated with more engagement opportunities for our scholars!

- January 31 ~ [Music Center of LA Theater Tour](#) - All 4 Theaters included!
- February 1-23 ~ [Pet Photo Contest](#) for Scholars
- February 1 ~ [Voyage of Explorers Dockside Tour of the Lady Washington Tall Sail Ship](#) in Newport
- February 7 ~ [Natural History Museum of LA Homeschool Day "Gems and Minerals Unearthed"](#)
- February 9 ~ [Oasis Camel Dairy](#) in Yucaipa
- February 12 ~ [Independence Hall Tour](#) at Knott's in Buena Park (3rd Grade & Above)
- February 15 ~ [Apple Store Field Trip & Lesson in Glendale](#)
- February 15 ~ [Virtual Scholar Workshop: Messy Kitchen Chemistry](#) with Jessica Wood
- February 21 ~ [LA Kitchen Community Service](#) Field Trip (5th Grade & Above)
- February 28 ~ [Anaheim Ducks First Flight Field Trip](#) (STEAM Activities and Lesson) in Anaheim
- March 8 ~ [Film This! Youth Film Festival](#) at Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley
- March 9 ~ [Scholar Fun Day in Fresno](#)
- March 16 ~ [Scholar Fun Day in San Diego](#)
- March 20 ~ [Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden](#)
- March 22 ~ [Virtual Scholar Workshop: Engineering Challenge](#) with Jessica Wood
- March 23 ~ [Graber Olive Farm Tour](#) in Ontario
- March 30 ~ [Scholar Talent Show](#) (held virtually)

- April 13 ~ [Imaginology](#) Field Trip at Orange County Fair Grounds
- April 20-22 ~ [AstroCamp](#) Overnight Field Trip 2018
- May 31 ~ [Universal Studios' Grad Bash for Graduating 12th Grade CCS Scholars](#)
- June 5 ~ [The Getty Center](#) in Los Angeles
- Spring 2019 ~ [DC/NY Trip for High School Scholars](#)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The new year is finally here! Our scholars, staff, and families have been working diligently together to create positive outcomes for our scholars. Our team will continue to be consistent, knowledgeable, and supportive professionals, who work in the best interest of our scholars. We will continue to foster positive relationships that build trust between our families and staff. Our team will work collaboratively with scholars, learning coaches and school staff to ensure scholars' success. It's important that your children continue to participate in their related services and join our Special Education teachers for their SAI sessions. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to our team as we are here to support your family.



Sincerely,

Gabi Golan | Special Education Manager
ggolan@compasscharters.org

What's New In Special Education?

Our department is also very excited to implement the Read Naturally program and work with scholars during their virtual SAI sessions. The program works to build fluency and motivation by having scholars read short, non-fiction passages to strengthen comprehension, vocabulary, and automaticity in decoding. If your child has language arts goals in their IEP, please encourage them to attend SAI sessions so that they don't miss out!



Also, we invite our families to [visit our website](#) and view a variety of resources that we have collected to help scholars succeed.

Staff Spotlight

This month we are featuring **Danielle Hodge, Special Education Instructor at CCS.**

CCS: What is your role at CCS and how long have you been part of our school?

Danielle: I am a Special Education Teacher and Case Manager and I have been at Compass for over two years.

CCS: Tell us your “why” for doing what you do here at CCS.

Danielle: The reason why I enjoy being part of Compass is that I enjoy getting our scholars past their level of frustration and helping them feel their own potential for success.



CCS: As an educator, is there a piece of advice you’d like to share with learning coaches or scholars?

Danielle: I have studied neurological networks and have learned that no two brain scans are alike. Therefore, there are several ways to be successful no matter how different our brains may be. It's important for scholars and learning coaches to know that success comes in a variety of ways. We are unique and I bring this understanding into my teaching.

CCS: Share one thing about yourself that very few people know.

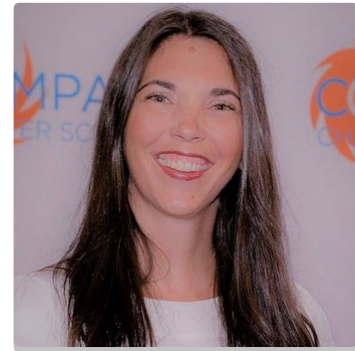
Danielle: I am a collector of hobbies most recently photography. I enjoy capturing the “aha” moments on the face of scholar-athletes and my own children during wrestling or varsity cheerleading practices.

CCS: What do you and your family like to do during your free time?

Danielle: My family enjoys supporting each other at sporting events, and we love to ski and be out in nature.

Staff Spotlight

We are also featuring Cami Humpherys, Special Education Advisor at CCS.



CCS: What is your primary role at CCS and how long have you been part of our school?

Cami: I am a Special Education Advisor and I have worked at Compass Charters for almost two years.

CCS: Tell us your “why” for doing what you do here at CCS.

Cami: I love being here at CCS for so many reasons. I feel we provide a unique and diverse environment for our scholars to not only succeed but to thrive. Our teachers are dedicated to helping our scholars reach success in any way they can. We have a variety of courses to choose from in our upper-grade levels so that every scholar can find an elective that speaks to them. We also incorporate the 'fun' that a brick-and-mortar school brings with ways for our scholars to see each other through field trips and clubs. Overall, I feel CCS is the best school for scholars seeking a different environment outside of a brick-and-mortar school. I am blessed to be a part of this family!

CCS: Share one thing about you that very few people know.

Cami: I have a goal to participate in at least three races this year. My husband and I are looking to do a Tough Mudder competition as my first race. (Ack! This is a tough one to start out with, but looks like so much fun!)

CCS: What do you and your family like to do during your free time?

Cami: My family and I enjoy the outdoors - with hiking, boating, camping, etc. We also LOVE amusement parks and crazy roller coasters! My four-year-old is obsessed and talks about all his

favorite rides all the time. Glad to have adventurous kids. It's great!

CONTINUE TO GRADE-LEVEL NEWSLETTERS



[Online Elementary School](#)



[Online Middle School](#)



[Online High School](#)



[Options Homeschool Program](#)

SHARE YOUR STORY

Comments

Are you enjoying the educational experience at Compass? Tell us! We want to hear from you. Why did you decide to join the Compass family? Or, what do you love most about being part of our community? Share your comments and all of your wonderful experiences at Compass with us! [Click here](#) to share.



Compass Charter Schools

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Visit our [website](#) for more information about our academic programs. Or, contact Janae Smith, High School Coordinator, at jsmith@compasscharters.org.

 850 Hampshire Road, Suite P, ...  info@compasscharters.org

 compasscharters.org

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_3jyxoCWVU



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